Yellowstone
Quarte
F
722.9
.A1a
no.121

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming

BRIEFED FISHING REGULATIONS

For detailed information, see Official Regulations and Fishing Map.

OPEN FISHING SEASON:

A. Yellowstone River drainage above the Upper Falls:
Rivers and creeks—July 15 through October 31.
Lakes (including Yellowstone Lake)—June 15 through October 31.
B. All other park waters that are open to fishing—May 28 through October 31.

DAILY FISHING PERIOD:

5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Saving Time.

CLOSED WATERS:

The following waters of the park are closed to fishing:

The Yellowstone River and its tributary streams from the confluence of Alum Creek with the Yellowstone River upstream to the Sulphur Caldron.

The Yellowstone River from the top of the Upper Falls downstream to its confluence with Surface Creek. (About three miles.)

Bridge Bay Lagoon, Grant Village Lagoon and Marina and their connecting channels with Yellowstone Lake.

Fishing is prohibited from the shores of the southern extreme of the West Thumb thermal area (posted) along the shore of Yellowstone Lake to the mouth of Little Thumb Creek.

The Mammoth water supply reservoir.

Old Faithful water supply consisting of that section of the Firehole River from the Old Faithful water intake to the Shoshone Lake trail crossing above Lone Star Geyser.

DAILY CREEL LIMITS BY WATERS:

NO GRAYLING MAY BE CREELED OR IN POSSESSION (catch and release fishing only).

McBride Lake, Slough Creek, Yellowstone Lake, and the Yellowstone River outlet above the Upper Falls:
Limit: Three (3) fish, 14 inches or longer.

Firehole and Madison Rivers, Lower Gibbon River up to the Gibbon Falls:
Limit: Two (2) fish, 16 inches or longer.

All other waters open to fishing:
Limit: Five (5) fish, of which no more than 3 may be cutthroat and none may be grayling.

TACKLE AND BAIT RESTRICTIONS:

Each person fishing shall use only one rod or line held in the hand.

Fly fishing only on the Madison River, Firehole River and Lower Gibbon River up to the Gibbon Falls.

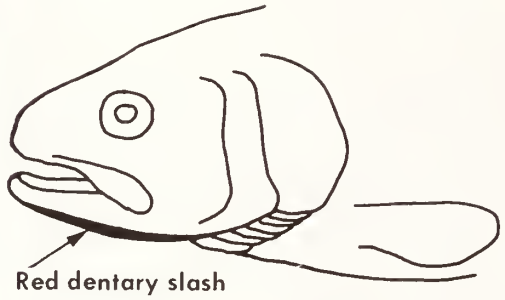
Remaining park waters are restricted to artificial flies and lures only, with one single, double or treble hook, except that children 12 years and under may fish with worms on the Gardner River, Obsidian Creek, Indian Creek, and Panther Creek.

POSSESSION LIMIT:

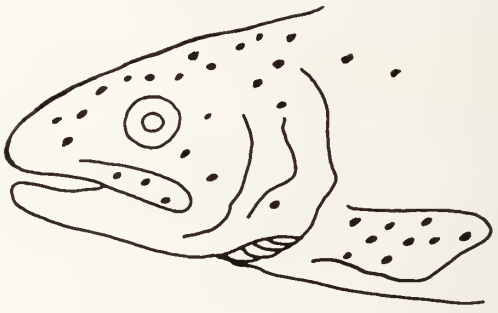
The possession limit is five (5) fish of which no more than three (3) may be cutthroat trout and none may be grayling.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROTECTED SPECIES

The three-fish limit on cutthroat is designed to protect dwindling populations of Yellowstone's native trout. Both rainbow and cutthroat trout are present in many of the lakes and streams within the park, and since these two fish readily hybridize, there is sometimes a problem in identification. The most reliable general characteristic in cutthroat trout or in trout with predominately cutthroat blood, is the red dentary slash. For the purposes of this program therefore, please count as part of your limit of cutthroat trout those fish bearing the red dentary slash beneath the lower jaw. (See illustration below.)

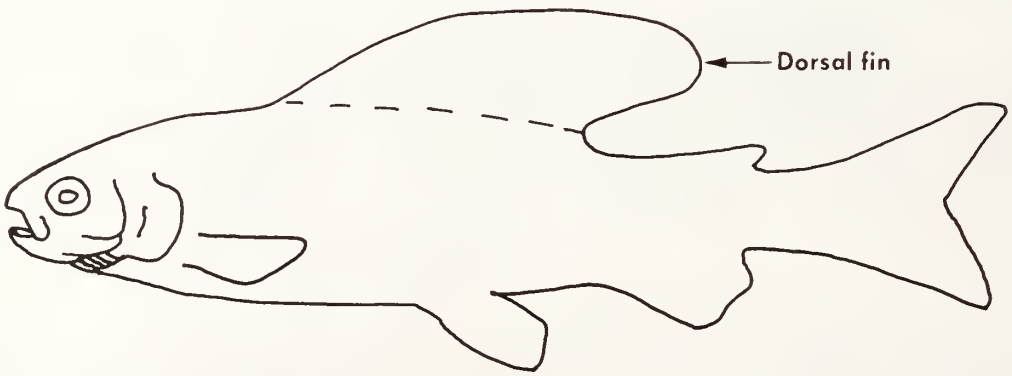


CUTTHROAT



RAINBOW

Killing or possessing grayling is prohibited. All those caught must be returned unharmed to the water. They are easily identified by their extremely large dorsal fin. (See illustration below.)



GRAYLING

A color plate, showing all the park sport fish, is available free of charge at park information stations.

UPB

GPO 840-494